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Analyses on college student migration to and from Wisconsin, based on data presented in two national studies: (1) "Home State and Migration of American College Students," conducted in the fall of 1958 by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers; and (2) "Residence and Migration of College Students, 1949–50," conducted by the U.S. Office of Education.

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Wisc., Joint Staff Study XXV
July 1959

COLLEGE STUDENT MIGRATION TO AND FROM WISCONSIN

Summary

1. A new report on student migration was recently issued by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, based on fall enrollments in 1958.

2. The last previous national study was made by the U.S. Office of Education on collegiate enrollments for the year 1949-1950.

3. Although there are some differences in techniques in the two studies, they are comparable in most respects.

4. Since both studies accept the student's own listing of his home address, rather than determining home address on some legal basis, any change in age and marriage status will result in a change in the proportion of students reporting their local address as their home address. From the data available it is not possible to determine how important this may be.

5. During the nine year interval between the school year of 1949-1950 and the fall semester of 1958, the state of Wisconsin has apparently changed from having a net out-migration to having a net in-migration of college-going students.

6. The number of Wisconsin students going out of the state for college is essentially the same as it was nine years ago. However, this now represents a smaller percentage of the total Wisconsin residents in college than it did nine years ago.

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7. Over twice as many Wisconsin college-going students attend private institutions out of the state as attend public institutions in another state. The general practice of charging out-of-state tuition in public institutions, encourages those who wish to attend a public institution to stay in their home state.

8. There has been a considerable increase in the number of out-of-state students attending Wisconsin colleges.

9. The Wisconsin private colleges have received well over half of the total increase of in-migration, although they have only about one third of the total enrollments in Wisconsin colleges.

10. The increase in foreign and United States territories students in the public colleges accounts for almost 30% of the total increase of in-migration to the public colleges of Wisconsin.

11. At the undergraduate level, 10% of the enrollment is out-of-state in the Wisconsin public institutions. In the Wisconsin private institutions, 36% of the enrollment comes from out of the state.

12. In both the public and private Wisconsin institutions, the percentage of graduate students from out of the state is much higher than is the percentage of undergraduate students. The same is true with respect to out-migration.

13. Wisconsin has a net out-migration of students attending professional schools. This has considerable significance because of the generally high cost of professional training.

14. At the undergraduate level, the migration of women both in and out of the state is materially higher on a percentage basis than is the migration of men.

COLLEGE STUDENT MIGRATION TO AND FROM WISCONSIN

There was recently issued a new national study of student migration entitled "Home State and Migration of American College Students" conducted in the fall of 1958 by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers.

The last previous study of this problem was conducted by the U. S. Office of Education and was entitled "Residence and Migration of College Students, 1949-50". This study followed the same plan as an earlier one of 1939-40 and the data for Wisconsin showed no material difference of migration pattern.

The 1949-50 study showed that Wisconsin had a net out-migration of students, that is, more Wisconsin residents were attending colleges outside of the state than there were non-residents of the state attending Wisconsin colleges.

The study made on the fall enrollments of 1958 showed that Wisconsin had a net in-migration, that is, more out-of-state students were attending college in Wisconsin than there were Wisconsin residents attending college outside of the state of Wisconsin.

Since the two studies were not entirely comparable, it is not possible to be certain as to how much of the apparent difference is due to actual changed conditions and how much of the apparent difference between the two studies is due to differences in techniques of the two studies. However, it seems probable that there has been a shift in student migration patterns during this nine year period.

Differences in Techniques Between the Two Studies

In both studies, the home address given by a student is accepted as the valid home address. This gives a different picture than would be obtained if the criteria of residence as established by law for the University of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin State Colleges were used.

In the 1949-50 study, enrollments were distributed between undergraduate and graduate levels with the professional schools included in the undergraduate figures. In the 1958 study, the enrollments were distributed among undergraduates, graduates, professional, new freshmen, and transfers.

Enrollments were reported by sex in the 1958 study but not in the 1949-50 study.

In the 1949-50 study, the data were reported by type of institution (university, liberal arts, teachers college, technical, theological, and professional schools.) In the 1958 study, they were not so reported. * In each instance, the data was reported by type of control (public or private.)

The 1958 study did not specifically exclude extension students while the 1949 study did. Both studies specifically excluded students enrolled in short courses, correspondence courses and those in non-credit or non-collegiate curricula.

In the 1949-50 study, the entire academic year was included. The 1958 study was based on the fall semester only.

The 1958 study included, and the 1949-50 study excluded, two private liberal arts colleges, the Milwaukee Institute of Technology, and the county teachers colleges.

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* While data are not given in the published report, appendix D of the report lists 18 supplementary tables which are available on request. These give total students and total first-time undergraduate students (men and women) by classifications of institutions (Universities, Liberal Arts Colleges, Teachers Colleges, Technological Schools, Theological and Religious Schools, Independent Professional Schools, Junior Colleges, Technical Institutes, and Semi-Professional Schools).

Although there can be no definite information as to the exact effect of these differences in technique, it is probable that they can account for only a portion of the differences shown by the two studies.

It is possible that the habits of the students with respect to the reporting of their home address may have changed during the nine year period. At the time of the earlier study, there were many veterans enrolled in the colleges of the nation. Last year there were far fewer veterans. It is possible that the veteran was more inclined to report as his home address the location where he was at the time, than would be true of the non-veteran. However, one might expect that any such effect would be equally true in all sections of the nation, and hence would not materially affect the comparisons between states.

Analysis of Out-Migration

The difference between the 1958 and the 1949-50 studies with respect to out-migration are shown in Table I. Essentially the same number of Wisconsin residents were going out of the state of Wisconsin to attend college in 1958 as were in 1949-50.

Table I. STUDENT MIGRATION FROM THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, FALL 1958 INCREASE OR DECREASE FROM 1949-1950

Wisconsin Residents Attending Educational Institutions Outside the State	Total	Undergraduate and Professional	Graduate
All Students	14	70	-56
Public	161	-28	189
Private	-147	98	-245

It is interesting to note that more Wisconsin residents were attending public institutions out of the state in the latter year and fewer Wisconsin students were attending private institutions out of the

state in the latter year. The increase of the Wisconsin residents in public institutions out of the state was in the graduate group. There was actually a decrease in the number of Wisconsin residents attending undergraduate public institutions out of the state. On the other hand, there were more undergraduates attending private institutions out of the state in the latter study than there were in the earlier study, but with a considerable decrease in the number of graduate students attending private institutions in other states.

Analysis of In-Migration

The increase or decrease of in-migration to the state of Wisconsin when the two studies are compared, are shown in Table II.

Table II. STUDENT MIGRATION TO THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, FALL 1958
INCREASE OR DECREASE FROM 1949-1950

Nonresidents* attending Wisconsin Educational Institutions	Total	Undergraduate and Professional	Graduate
All Students	3822	3524	298
Public	1758	1294	464
Private	2064	2230	-166
Foreign Students	528	275	253
Public	437	224	213
Private	91	51	40
U.S. Territories	46	22	24
Public	81	60	21
Private	-35	-38	3

*Home address given by student

There has been an increase of in-migration of some 3800 students in the nine year period. The increase was greatest in the private institutions with 2064 going to the private institutions and 1758 going to the public institutions.

In the public institutions, the increase was divided with about 3/4 in the undergraduate and professional group and 1/4 in the graduate group. In the private institutions, there was an increase of over 2200 in the undergraduate and professional group and a decrease of over 150 in the graduate group.

There was an increase of over 500 in the number of foreign students attending institutions in Wisconsin. They were about evenly divided between undergraduate and professional on one hand and graduate students on the other hand in both the public and private institutions. About 4/5 of the increase in the foreign students went to the public institutions and 1/5 to the private institutions.

There has been about a net increase of 50 students from U. S. territories during the nine year period. The public institutions have gained some 80, and the private institutions have lost over 30.

Analysis of Out-of-state Enrollment in Wisconsin

Table III-A shows the percentage of out-of-state enrollments in Wisconsin institutions for 1949-50 and for the fall of 1958. The percentage of out-of-state students is higher in all catagories in the fall of 1958 than was true in 1949-50. The increase in the private institutions was greater on a percentage basis as well as on the basis of actual numbers than was the increase in the public institutions.

Table III-A. PERCENTAGE OUT-OF-STATE* STUDENTS IS OF TOTAL ENROLLMENT IN WISCONSIN COLLEGES 1949-1950 and FALL, 1958

Percentage of	1949-50 Total	1949-50 UG & Prof	1949-50 Grad	Fall, 1958 Total	Fall, 1958 UG & Prof	Fall, 1958 Grad
All Wisconsin Institutions	18%	15%	39%	21%	19%	47%
Public Instit.	12%	8%	48%	14%	10%	50%
UW**	14%	9%	48%	18%	12%	43%
State*** Colleges	3%	3%****	-	7%	7%	-
Private Institutions	28%	29%	23%	36%	36%	30%

*Based on home address of student rather than designation for fee purpose
**From Lins enrollment report
***State College enrollment report
****Excludes Stout and the Institute of Technology

Table III-B. gives the number and percentage of the resident and non-resident enrollments in Wisconsin institutions in the fall of 1958.

Table III-B. % RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT ENROLLMENT IN WISCONSIN INSTITUTIONS FALL 1958

	Public			Private			Grand Total
	Total Enroll.	% Resid.	% Non-Resid.	Total Enroll.	% Resid.	% Non-Resid	Total Enroll.
Undergraduate	35533	90	10	18263	64	36	53796
Graduate	4065	50	50	833	70	30	3898
Professional	848	89	11	1355	61	39	2203
All Enrollment Levels	40446	86	14	20451	64	36	60897
New Freshmen	11336	91	9	4993	60	40	16329
Undergrad Transfers	2841	85	15	929	53	47	3770

In the public institutions, the out-of-state enrollment is much lower percentage-wise in the undergraduate and professional groups than it is in the graduate group. In the private institutions, just the reverse is true, with the percentage of out-of-state enrollment for the undergraduate and professional groups being higher than the percentage of out-of-state enrollments in the graduate group.

It is interesting to note that in the private institutions the percentage of the new freshmen from out of the state and the percentage of undergraduate transfers from out of the state are both materially higher than is true of the total undergraduate enrollment in the private institutions. In the public institutions, the proportion of new freshmen coming from out of the state is slightly smaller than the over-all percentage of out-of-state students at the undergraduate level. The undergraduate transfers to the public institutions show a higher percentage of out-of-state students than do the total undergraduate enrollment figures.

Wisconsin Residents Attending Institutions In and Outside of the State

Table IV. gives an analysis of all college-going Wisconsin residents showing the number and the percentage attending institutions within the state and outside of the state, divided as between public and private institutions.

Table IV. NUMBERS AND % OF WISCONSIN RESIDENTS ATTENDING INSTITUTIONS IN AND OUTSIDE OF THE STATE, FALL 1958

	Total	Going in State		Going out State		Total	Going in State		Going Out	
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	No.	%	No.	%
Undergrad	34472	28988	93	2484	7	17894	11688	65	6286	35
Graduate	2758	2020	73	738	27	1188	583	49	605	51
Prof	922	755	82	167	18	1617	827	51	790	49
All Enroll Levels	38152	34763	91	3389	9	20699	13098	63	7601	37
New Fresh	10981	10292	94	689	6	5021	2970	59	2051	41
Undergrad Transfers	2785	2419	97	366	3	863	489	57	374	43

It is apparent that a much higher percentage of Wisconsin residents attending private institutions go out of the state than is true with those Wisconsin residents attending public institutions.

At the undergraduate level, the number of Wisconsin residents attending public institutions outside of the state is less than half the number attending private institutions outside of the state.

At the graduate level, although the percentage going out of the state to public institutions is much smaller than the percentage going out of the state to private institutions, the actual numbers are not very different.

In the professional groups, by far the greatest number of Wisconsin residents attending college outside of the state go to private institutions.

Of the new freshmen going out of the state for college work, both the percentage and the number is much smaller in those attending public institutions than those attending private institutions.

Analysis of Migration of Wisconsin Students by Sex

The 1958 study reported the data by sex. The 1949-50 study did not report the data in this fashion. Hence, no comparisons can be made. Table V-A lists by sex those Wisconsin residents attending institutions outside of the state.

Table V-A. WISCONSIN RESIDENTS ATTENDING EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OUTSIDE OF THE STATE, FALL 1958

	Men		Women	
	Number	% of Wisconsin College-Going Students	Number	% of Wisconsin College-Going Students
All Levels	7283	19	3707	18
Undergraduate	5265	16	3425	21
Graduate	1099	35	244	31
Professional	919	37	38	47
New Freshmen	1547	17	1193	17
Undergrad Transfers	515	20	225	20

It will be noted that at the undergraduate level, the proportion of women going out of Wisconsin for college is greater than the proportion of men going out of the state. The same is true at the professional level. On the other hand, at the graduate level, the proportion of men going out of Wisconsin for training is higher than the proportion of women going out of the state.

Table V-B. shows the non-residents attending Wisconsin colleges divided by sex.

Table V-B. NON-RESIDENTS ATTENDING WISCONSIN EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS FALL 1958

	MEN		WOMEN	
	Number	% of Enrollment in Wisconsin College that is Nonresident	Number	% of Enrollment in Wisconsin Colleges that is Nonresident
All Institutions	7783	20	5253	24
Undergraduate	5371	16	4749	22
Graduate	1799	46	496	48
Professional	613	28	8	16
New Freshmen	1489	16	1578	22
Undergrad Transfers	513	20	349	28

It will be noted that a higher percentage of women attending Wisconsin colleges come from out of the state than is true with men. This is true at every level of enrollment with the exception of the professional group. At the professional group, a higher proportion of men come from out of the state than is true of women.

Table V-C. gives the net student migration of the state of Wisconsin. The sexes are distributed between public and private institutions.

Table V-C. NET STUDENT MIGRATION OF THE STATE OF WISCONSIN
FALL 1958

In-migration -- More nonresidents coming into the state than residents leaving it to attend school.

Out-migration -- More residents leaving the state than non-residents entering it to attend school. (minus figures)

	Private			Public			Grand Total		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
All Institutions	-248	-557	309	2294	1057	1237	2046	500	1546
Undergraduate	369	15	354	1061	91	970	1430	106	1324
Graduate	-355	-329	-26	1307	1029	278	952	700	252
Professional	-262	-243	-19	-74	-63	-11	-336	-306	-30
New Freshmen	-28	- 88	60	355	30	325	327	-58	385
Undergrad Transfers	66	- 16	82	56	14	42	122	-2	124

It will be noted that the difference between in-migration and out-migration in the fall of 1958 leaves a net of 2046 more students coming into the state for college than Wisconsin residents going to colleges outside of the state. Over 3/4 of the net in-migration are women, and only 1/4 are men.

At the undergraduate level, the net in-migration is 1430, with over 1300 of these being women. At the graduate level, the net in-migration is 952, with 700 of these being men.

At the professional level, there is a net out-migration of 336. Most of the out-migration, over 300, are men. Probably the fact that Wisconsin does not offer such courses as forestry, architecture, and veterinary science accounts for the net out-migration.

In new freshmen and in undergraduate transfers, there is a total in-migration in each instance. However, the net in-migration in both cases is entirely accounted for by women.

In the private institutions, there is a net in-migration at the undergraduate level, with the great majority of them being women. At the graduate level, and the professional level, there is a net out-migration.

In the public institutions, there is a net in-migration at all levels, with the exception of professional, where there is a net out-migration.